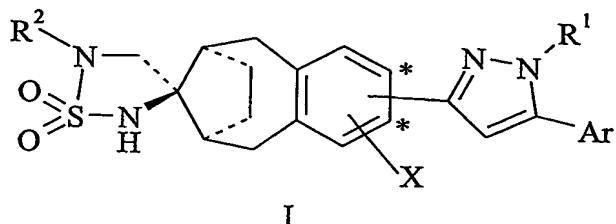


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula I:



5 wherein the pyrazole group is attached at one of the positions indicated by an asterisk and X is attached at a position adjacent thereto;

X represents H, OH, C₁₋₄alkoxy, Cl or F;

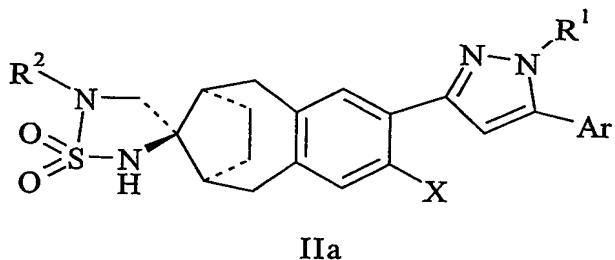
Ar represents phenyl or 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

10 R¹ represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-5 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms; and

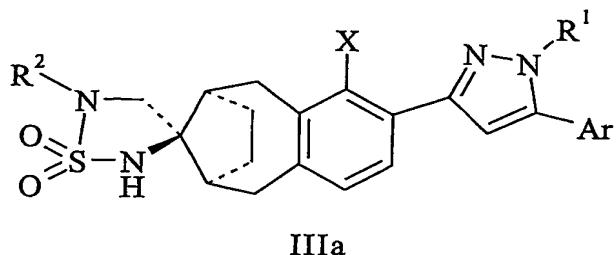
R² represents H or a hydrocarbon group of 1-10 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 7 halogen atoms;

15 provided that when X is H, R² does not represent 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula IIa:



20 or formula IIIa:



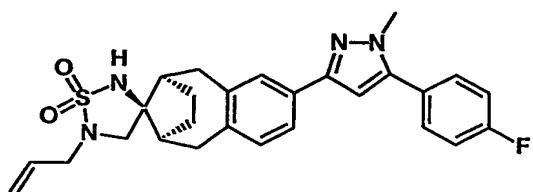
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5 3. A compound according to any previous claim wherein Ar represents phenyl, monohalophenyl, dihalophenyl, trihalophenyl, cyanophenyl, methylphenyl, methoxyphenyl, trifluoromethylphenyl, trifluoromethoxyphenyl, pyridyl, monohalopyridyl and trifluoromethylpyridyl, wherein "halo" refers to fluoro or chloro.

10 4. A compound according to any previous claim wherein R² represents H, benzyl, or alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms, or benzyl, and optionally bears up to 5 fluorine substituents.

15 5. A compound according to claim 2 wherein X is H, R¹ is methyl, Ar is 4-fluorophenyl and R² is selected from H, benzyl, n-propyl, 2,2-dimethylpropyl, n-butyl, isopropyl, t-butyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2-difluoroethyl, 2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropyl, 3,3,3-trifluoropropyl, allyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl and cyclopropylmethyl.

20 6. The compound of formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

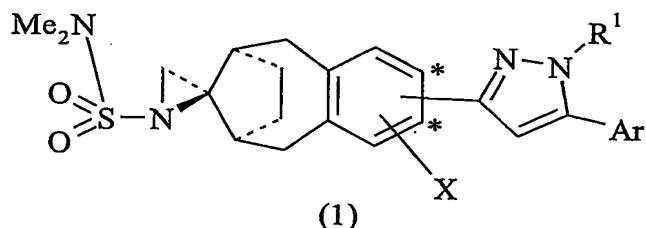
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5 8. A compound according to any of claims 1-6 for use in therapy.

9. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-6 for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

10 10. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-6.

11. A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1 in which R² is other than H comprising reaction of a compound of formula (1):



with R^{2a}NH₂;

20 where the pyrazole group is attached at one of the positions indicated by an asterisk and X is attached at a position adjacent thereto;
 R^{2a} is R² that is other than H;
 and X and Ar, R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1.